Introduction

The 2024 Rainbow Book List is excited to present its selection of books catering to LGBTQIA+ youth, spanning from birth to age 18. The compilation includes over 100 titles released between July 1, 2022, and December 31, 2023.

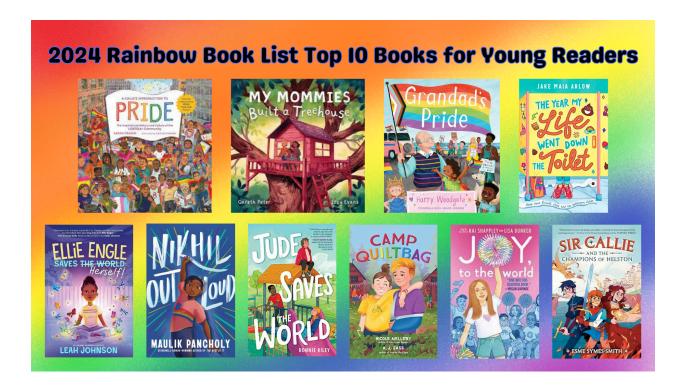
It is critical that the Rainbow Book List, and other book lists like it, are made available to assist librarians, educators, caregivers, LGBTQIA+ members, and community allies in selecting quality books for LGBTQIA+ youth. As attacks against LGBTQIA+ books have become upsettingly frequent, it is important to fight for the inclusion of all stories in community libraries and schools. Our youth deserve to see themselves reflected in their literature. Unfortunately, this list will undoubtedly be misused by some to target, censor, and ban LGBTQIA+ stories. It is therefore up to all of us to rally behind the authors on this list and support, read, share, and discuss their books.

Despite facing a significant surge in book challenges and censorship attempts over the past year, it is heartening to note that the availability of queer literature for youth is on a continuous rise. This past year, the Rainbow Book List committee assessed more than 450 books, enabling us to continue to offer two distinct top 10 lists. The Top Ten Titles for Young Readers are tailored for readers from birth to middle school, while the Top Ten Titles for Teen Readers cater to a young adult audience. Throughout the annotated list, the presence of an asterisk (*) signifies that a title has earned a spot on one of the top ten lists.

We extend our gratitude to everyone who has shown interest in the 2024 Rainbow Book List. Thank you for standing with us in championing the power of storytelling and the importance of embracing all voices.

The Rainbow Book List is brought to you by the Rainbow Round Table of the American Library Association. Members of the 2024 Rainbow Book List are: Jess Geiss (Chair), Stanislaus County Library (CA); Isaiah West (Chair), Prince George's County Memorial Library System (MD); Sarah Anderson, Charles County Public Library (MD); Nathan Bartos, Kent District Library (MI); Tori Gellman, Public Library (MA); Kelly Hart, Sequoyah Regional Library System (GA); Noah Mullens, University of Florida (FL); Jennifer Powell, Tuscaloosa City Schools (AL); Carrie Richmond, Racine Public Library (WI); Molly Saunders, ALSO Youth (FL); Melaina Squicciarini, Highland Park Public Library (NJ).

2024 Top Ten Titles for Young Readers



2024 Top Ten Titles for Teen Readers



Preschool



Picture Book, Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 3-7

Davis, Jacky and Dawson, Courtney (illustrator). *Good Dream Dragon*. **2022**. **40p**. Christy Ottaviano Books/Hachette. \$17.99 (9780316349451). When a young child has a hard time falling asleep, they call upon the Good Dream Dragon to take them on a fanciful adventure.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 3-7

Grant, Shauntay and Thomas, Kitt (illustrator). *My Fade is Fresh.* 2022. 32p. Penguin Workshop/Penguin Random House. \$17.99 (9780593387085).

A young child goes into the barbershop and wants to get her long hair cut into a fade. While the adults try to convince her to get something more gendered, the child stays true to her choice.



Picture Book, Fiction - Fairy Tale, Ages 3-6

Kasha, Manka. *Small Knight and the Angry Prince*. 2023. 40p. Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan. \$18.99 (9781250856982).

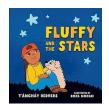
Small Knight is excited to welcome their aunt and cousin to the kingdom. But when their famous warrior aunt starts praising the Small Knight's sword skills, it makes their cousin jealous and angry.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 4-6

*Peter, Gareth and Evans, Izzy (illustrator). *My Mommies Built a Treehouse*. 2023. 32p. Lantana Publishing/Lerner Publishing Group. \$18.99 (9781915244185).

When a child wants a treehouse built in his backyard to play in, his moms jump at the challenge to build the most perfect one.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 3-5

Redvers, T'áncháy and Nozari, Roza (illustrator). *Fluffy and the Stars.* 2023. 32p. Orca Book Publishers. \$21.95 (9781459835726).

Shay and their dog, Fluffy, love each other and take care of each other. But when Fluffy gets sick, Shay has to learn to remember the good times.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 3-7

Sterling, Holly. *Ballet Kids.* 2022. 32p. Candlewick/Candlewick Press. \$18.99 (9781536220377).

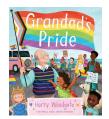
This cute picture book is about a young boy in a ballet class who enjoys dressing up for his role as the sugarplum fairy in a recital.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 3-5

Stutzman, Jonathan and Lilly, Elizabeth (illustrator). *Soon, Your Hands.* 2023. 48p. Knopf Books for Young Readers/Penguin Random House. \$18.99 (9780593427071).

Told from the perspective of a parent to a child, this poetic picture book follows multiple families as their children use their hands to learn, grow, and explore the world around them.

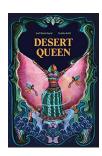


Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 3-6

*Woodgate, Harry. *Grandad's Pride.* 2023. 32p. Little Bee Books. \$18.99 (9781499814613).

When Milly finds her Grandad's old Pride flag in the attic, she learns about the adventures her Gramps and Grandad had at Pride parades when they were younger and organizes a new Pride celebration in their village.

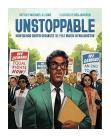
Early Elementary



Picture Book, Nonfiction - Biography, Ages 4-8

Gopal, Jyoti Rajan and Kohli, Svabhu (illustrator). *Desert Queen.* 2023. 50p. Levine Querido/ Chronicle Books. \$18.99 (9781646142620).

After losing his parents, Harish must find a way to provide for himself and his siblings. He begins to perform in drag, not only lighting up the stage at night but also learning to navigate strict societal gender norms. Inspired by a true story.



Picture Book, Nonfiction - Biography, Ages 6-9

Long, Michael G. and Jackson, Bea (illustrator). *Unstoppable: How Bayard Rustin Organized the 1963 March on Washington.* 2023. 40p. Little Bee Books. \$18.99 (9781499812060).

This picture book biography shows the pivotal role of Bayard Rustin, a gay Black man, in the organizing of the March on Washington. Though it was not easy, Rustin overcame prejudice and homophobia to plan the largest civil rights

march in history.



Picture Book, Nonfiction - Biography, Ages 4-8

Pincus, Meeg and Gimbel, Meridth McKean (illustrator). *Door by Door: How Sarah McBride Became America's First Openly Transgender Senator.*2023. 40p. Crown Books for Young Readers/Penguin Random House.
\$18.99 (9780593484654).

This children's book biography tells the inspiring story of Sarah McBride, America's first transgender senator. Sarah's story is told as a beacon of hope

for transgender children who want to make the world a better place through activism, acceptance, and kindness.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 4-8

Bloom, Amy and Wahlgren, Jameela (illustrator). Flower Girl. 2023. 40p. Norton Young Readers/W.W. Norton & Company. \$18.95 (9781324030355). Flower Girl is an adorable story about self-love and acceptance through gender nonconformity. It tells the story of a girl who is excited to be the flower girl for her aunt's wedding but wants to wear a suit instead of a dress. Full of supportive adults and a sweet message, this is a great picture book about

staying true to yourself...



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 4-8

Bradley, Jeanette. *Something Great.* 2022. 40p. Levine Querido/Chronicle Books. \$18.99 (9781646141715).

A picture book featuring a nonbinary child who uses they/them pronouns, STEM, and friendship.

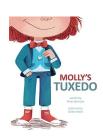


Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 4-8

Irving, A.J. and Alizadeh, Kip (illustrator). *The Wishing Flower.* 2023. 32p. Knopf Books for Young Readers/Penguin Random House. \$18.99 (9780593430446).

A young girl named Birdie learns to be brave and follow her wishes when she meets Sunny, the new girl in school, in this sweet picture book about a first

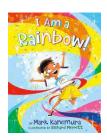
childhood crush.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 4-8

Johnson, Vicki and Reid, Gillian (illustrator). *Molly's Tuxedo.* 2023. 40p. Little Bee Books. \$18.99 (9781499813142).

Molly knows exactly what she wants to wear for her school picture day: a tuxedo! But her mom has already picked out a dress for Molly to wear. This charming picture book is all about dressing to feel your best no matter what society expects of you.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 4-8

Kanemura, Mark and Merritt, Richard (illustrator). *I Am a Rainbow.* 2023. 40p. Little Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette. \$18.99 (9780316167789).

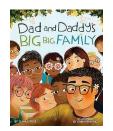
Mark loves to dance, be vibrant, and sparkle at home. But when he's at school he wishes he was someone else. When his parents give him a rainbow cape, Mark finds a group of other rainbow loving kids at the park who teach him to love himself exactly as he is.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 6-7

Kennen, Sophie and O'Callaghan, Airin (illustrator). *Some Bodies.* 2022. 32p. Sleeping Bear Press. \$17.99 (9781534111417).

All bodies are celebrated in this diverse and inclusive book on body positivity, including a spread that shows a trans person's top surgery scars.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 4-8

Kirst, Seamus and Bunting, Karen (illustrator). *Dad and Daddy's Big Big Family.* 2023. 32p. Magination Press. \$18.99 (9781433840388).

Harper, her Dad, and Daddy go to their family reunion. There Harper is amazed that all these people are related to Daddy! Everyone looks so different and has different last names, are they really family? And does family have to all live together? Dad and Daddy explain that everyone has an extended family made

up of smaller families, and that family can be blood relations or people you choose.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 4-8

Kirst, Seamus and Landry, Noémie Gionet (illustrator). *Once Upon My Dads' Divorce.* 2023. 32p. Magination Press. \$18.99 (9781433840746). Grayson felt life was perfect with Daddy and Papa until they divorced. Now Grayson must split his time between Daddy and Papa's new houses and is saddened that they can no longer live all together. When new routines are

formed, gradually a new normal sets in. Includes backmatter on how to help

your child through divorce.



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 4-8

Newman, Lesléa and Heinsz, Joshua (illustrator). *The Fairest in the Land.* 2023. 40p. Abrams Books For Young Readers/ABRAMS. \$17.99 (9781419757099).

When Annabelle and Benjamin play dress-up, they both want to be the princess, but who's going to be the prince? Can they both be the fairest in the land?



Picture Book, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 4-8

Trimmer, Christian and Yang, J (illustrator). *The Good Hair Day.* 2023. 40p. Abrams Books For Young Readers/ABRAMS. \$18.99 (9781419745881). Noah's birthday is approaching and he feels ashamed to ask for the long hair he really wants. After all, none of the men in his family have long hair. When his dad takes him for a birthday haircut, Noah cries to see the hair he had cut away. When his birthday comes, Noah gets the best present--his very own wig.

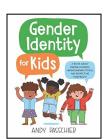


Graphic Novel, Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 6-9

Ramm, Meggie. *Batcat.* 2023. 96p. Harry N. Abrams/ABRAMS. \$13.99 (9781419756573).

For readers who loved Oglivy or Neither, Batcat is the perfect book for kids who don't fit into specific groups or stereotypes. Fun imagery mixed with silly animal personalities makes this graphic novel a fun read for anyone.

Upper Elementary

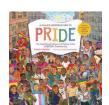


Nonfiction - Informational, Ages 7-10

Passchier, Andy. Gender Identity for Kids: a Book About Finding Yourself, Understanding Others, and Respecting Everybody! 2023. 96p.Little Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette. \$15.99 (9780316411226)

Filled with fun and inclusive illustrations, this detailed book explores gender identity in a friendly and approachable style for kids. Topics covered include: gender identity, gender expression and exploration, and the challenges

transgender and nonbinary people may come across, as well as how to support them.

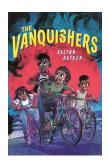


Nonfiction - Informational, Ages 8-12

*Prager, Sarah and O'Dwyer, Caitlin (illustrator). *A Child's Introduction to Pride: The Inspirational History and Culture of LGBTQIA+ Community.* 2023. 96p. Black Dog & Leventhal/Hachette. \$21.99 (9780762481910).

This jam-packed nonfiction book for kids covers LGBTQIA+ identities and pronouns, as well as the history of LGBTQIA+ people and movements from the precolonial world through to today. Well-documented and exceptionally written with vibrant illustrations,

this book is sure to engage children with LGBTQIA+ Pride.



Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 8-11

Bayron, Kalynn. *The Vanquishers.* 2022. 288p. Bloomsbury Children's Books/Bloomsbury Publishing. \$16.99 (9781547609772).

The Vanquishers is an action packed middle grade novel about best friends who band together to save their friend from the menace of vampires which they have been warned about their whole lives. With funny and heartfelt characters, this book has amazing representation with Black main characters and a non-binary character who uses they/them pronouns.



Novel in Verse, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 9-12

Bécotte, Jonathan and Kaplansky, Jonathan (translated). *Like a Hurricane*. 2023. 128p. Orca Book Publishers. \$12.95 (9781459835238).

In this short novel filled with calligrams, a young boy's secret brews inside him like a hurricane, causing him to come out to his friends and family.



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 8-12

Horne, Maggie. *Hazel Hill is Going to Win This One.* 2022. 240p. Clarion Books/HarperCollins. \$16.99 (9780358664703).

Heartwarming story about a young lesbian in middle school finding friends and fighting for justice against sexual harassment.



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 8-12

*Johnson, Leah. *Ellie Engle Saves Herself.* 2023. 288p. Disney-Hyperion/Hachette. \$18.99 (9781368085557).

After an unexpected earthquake on the night before the first day of school, Ellie Engle feels different. Then she accidentally brings her dead Beta Fish to life again, and Ellie realizes that being a superhero does not make middle school any easier.



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 8-12

*Melleby, Nicole and Sass, A. J. *Camp QUILTBAG.* 2023. 352p. Algonquin Young Readers/Hachette. \$16.99 (9781643752662).

Abigail and Kai end up at the same summer camp for Queer kids for very different reasons, and what starts out as a plan to help each other with their respective camp goals turns into a true friendship.



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 8-12

Otterloo, Ash Van. *The Beautiful Something Else.* 2023. 288p. Scholastic Press/Scholastic (Trade Publishing). \$17.99 (9781338843224).

After struggling with understanding and protecting their religious mother who suffers from addiction, Sparrow is immersed in a hyper-accepting inclusive living space with their aunt and is torn between being who they were meant to be and who their mother wants them to be. CW transphobia, dead naming.



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 8-12

*Pancholy, Maulik. *Nikhil Out Loud.* 2022. 320p. Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins. \$17.99 (9780063091924).

Nikhil is your average kid, that is, if average means living with your mom, going to school, and being the voice of a famous children's animated tv show. When Nikhil has to move across the country due to a sick grandparent, his life is turned upside down with new schoolmates, a new studio, and a new article outing himself in the school newspaper. Average, right? So I ask you one

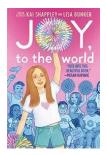
question..are you ready??



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 8-12

*Riley, Ronnie. *Jude Saves the World.* 2023. 272p. Scholastic Press/Scholastic (Trade Publishing). \$18.99 (9781338855876).

Jude may not think they know much in life, but they do know themself. Follow Jude as they save the world through self love, understanding, and creating community in the best place in the world, the library! Join Jude as they save the world!



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 8-12

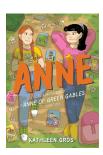
*Shappley, Kai and Bunker, Lisa. *Joy, to the World.* 2023. 240p. Clarion Books/HarperCollins. \$19.99 (9780063242753).

Joy and her friends are ready to try out for the 7th grade cheerleading squad. But when Joy gets outed as transgender, she is banned from the team because of a new Texas bill. But Joy, her mom, and her friends decide to fight back.



Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 8-12

*Symes-Smith, Esme. Sir Callie and the Champions of Helston. 2022. 400p. Labyrinth Road/Penguin Random House. \$17.99 (9780593485774). In this magical, middle-grade title, Callie has to defy gender norms to train as a knight and become a hero like their father before them.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 8-12

Gros, Kathleen. Anne: An Adaptation of Anne of Green Gables (Sort Of). 2022. 304p. Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins. \$13.99 (9780063057654). In this cute contemporary graphic novel retelling of Anne of Green Gables, Anne deals with her past in the foster system, her desire to make friends in her new school, and her first crush and blossoming relationship with her friend Diana.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Humorous, Ages 8-12 Hallbeck, Chris. *Pebble and Wren.* 2023. 240p. Clarion Books/HarperCollins. \$24.99 (9780358541295).

A delightful story about a monster and the human he is supposed to haunt, *Pebble and Wren* is a sweet story about friendship, family, and embracing yourself just as you are. With representation of different types of families, this graphic novel is a hilarious look at an unconventional but adorable friendship.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 9-12

Whitley, Jeremy and Indigo, Bre. *The Dog Knight.* 2023. 224p. Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan. \$22.99 (9781250756718).

When Frankie and their mom are shopping for a concert outfit, a dog shows up to help save Frankie's mom. Once Frankie repays the favor, they are transported to a magical doghouse. Now they must complete six tasks to become the Dog Knight and save the world.

Middle School



Nonfiction - Informational, Ages 10-14

Rodgers, Allison K and Le Large, Annika (illustrator). We Need to Talk About Vaginas: An Important Book About Vulvas, Periods, Puberty, and Sex! 2023. 64p. Neon Squid/Macmillan. \$14.99 (9781684492848).

This is a queer positive, gender affirming, book about vaginas! A perfect guide to puberty for anyone with a vagina regardless of how they identify. Straightforward and scientific, this book will answer questions about periods,

sex. and more.



Fiction - Realistic Fiction, Ages 10+

Dåsnes, Nora and Bagguley, Matt (translated by). *Cross My Heart and Never Lie.* 2023. 248p. Hippo Park/ Astra Publishing House, Ltd. \$24.99 (9781662640544).

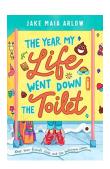
Written in the form of a diary, this middle grade graphic in translation follows twelve-year-old Tuva as she is caught between her childhood activities and the allure of new teenage experiences, including her crush on the new girl in school.



Novel in Verse, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 10-14

Gow, Robin. *Dear Mothman*. 2023. 320p. Amulet Books/ABRAMS. \$18.99 (9781419764400).

In this middle grade novel in verse a young trans boy, who is on the spectrum, named Noah writes letters to Mothman in an effort to deal with the death of his best friend. The letters also allow Noah to come to understand his own trans identity and what it means to him.



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 10-14

*Arlow, Jake Maia. *The Year My Life Went Down the Toilet.* 2023. 288p. Dial Books/Penguin Random House. \$17.99 (9780593112960).

Twelve-year-old Al Schneider's stomach hurts all the time and she's fairly certain she's attracted to girls. When she is diagnosed with Crohns and starts attending an IBD support group, she feels like her life couldn't possibly get more embarrassing. But in talking freely about bowels with other kids her own age, and falling head over heels for a cute girl who also has IBD, Al starts to see the value in all aspects of her life, even the super messy ones.



Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 10-14

Riordan, Rick and Oshiro, Mark. *The Sun and the Star.* 2023. 480p. Disney-Hyperion/Hachette. \$19.99 (9781368081153).

Nico diAngelo, son of the Greek God Hades, and his boyfriend Will Solace, son of Apollo, are tasked with a quest to go into Tartarus and help the Titan Bob. The quest has the two demigods meet foes and friends old and new, and tests their relationship to its breaking point.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Biography, Ages 10-14

Quin, Tegan, Quin, Sara and Walden, Tillie (illustrator). *Tegan and Sara: Junior High*. 2023. 304p. Farrar Straus Giroux/Macmillan. \$22.99 (9780374313012).

In this semi-biographical memoir, indie artists Tegan and Sara Quin give a glimpse into the middle school experience as they test friendships, develop crushes, and explore making music.

Young Adult



Anthology - Fantasy, Ages 13+

haron davis, g. (editor). *Transmogrify!: 14 Fantastical Tales of Trans Magic*. 2023. 416p. HarperTeen/HarperCollins. \$19.99 (9780063218796). This anthology of short stories by young adult authors brings together a plethora of fantasy worlds and magical systems for readers to explore. The transgender protagonists reflect a diversity of gender identities, all of which sparkle with magic and joy.



Fiction - Romance, Ages 14+

*Acker, James. *The Long Run*. 2023. 400p. Inkyard Press/HarperCollins. \$18.99 (9781335428622).

Track and Field athletes Sebastian Villeda, Bash the Flash, and Sandro Miceli have never really moved in the same social circles in their South Jersey high school. Track captain Bash, whose dad left when he was young, also recently lost his mom, leaving him to live with his always working stepfather. Field captain Sandro is the middle-child of a large Italian-American family, who are too busy to pay Sandro any attention. When the two boys become friendly at a

party, their tentative friendship becomes something more.



Fiction - Romance, Ages 13-18

Adler, Dahlia. *Going Bicoastal*. 2023. 336p. Wednesday Books/Macmillan. \$20.00 (9781250871640).

It's time for Natalya to make some decisions in her life; does she want to spend the summer with her mother in California or stay with her dad in NYC? NYC is her comfort zone... and there is that mysterious girl she swears she's going to talk to one of these days... On the other hand, California and maybe repairing the gaping hole in her relationship with her mother. Fortunately for us, we can live out both choices and follow Natalya in both possibilities! But which choice

is the right one? Only you can decide!



Fiction - Romance, Ages 14+

*Albertalli, Becky. *Imogen, Obviously*. 2023. 432p. Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins. \$19.99 (9780063045873).

Imogen Scott is the loudest and proudest ally around, but a little white lie from her best friend, Lili, leads Imogen into pretending to be not only queer, but exes with her best friend. But when she meets one of Lili's new college friends, Tessa, Imogen learns that maybe the big flashing ally sign she wears on her head may be masking a bigger truth inside of her.



Fiction - Romance, Ages 14+

Arlow, Jake Maia. *How to Excavate a Heart*. 2022. 384p. HarperTeen/HarperCollins. \$18.99 (9780063078727).

While most holiday romances don't actually start with your mom hitting your leading lady with her car, maybe they are missing part of the equation! Follow along with this will they/won't they winter storm full of Jewish traditions, snow, and a sweet corgi!



Fiction - Romance, Ages 14-18

Byrne, Tanya. *Afterlove*. 2022. 384p. Godwin Books/Macmillan. \$18.99 (9781250865618).

The meaning of endless love is put to the test when teenage lesbian Ash dies, leaving the love of her life Poppy in the mortal world. But she won't go quietly into the afterlife. Not without seeing Poppy again.



Novel in Verse, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 14+

Cole, Olivia A. *Dear Medusa*. 2023. 200p. Labyrinth Road/Penguin Random House. \$18.99 (9780593485736).

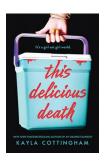
This stunning novel in verse captures the complex aftermath of sexual abuse and slut shaming through the lens of Greek mythology in a contemporary setting. As Alicia learns about other victims, she finds a way to justice and begins to write a new story for her future.



Fiction - Historical, Ages 14+

Cornwell, Betsy. *Reader, I Murdered Him.* 2022. 304p. Clarion Books/HarperCollins. \$17.99 (9780358306641).

Adele Varens was rescued from a life of Parisian dancers by her supposed father, Mr. Rochester, and grew up under the care of her tutor, Jane Eyre. But when Jane becomes pregnant, Adele is sent to boarding school in the city of London, where she discovers that charms can be deceitful. After an assault on her friend, Adele uses her newfound strength to enforce justice on the streets of London.



Fiction - Horror, Ages 14-18

Cottingham, Kayla. *This Delicious Death*. 2023. 304p. Sourcebooks Fire/Sourcebooks. \$11.99 (9781728236445).

For fans of zombies, close-knit friend groups, government conspiracies, and queer love, *This Delicious Death* is a highly entertaining read for anyone looking for a fresh take on a pandemic that turns many of the population into ghouls. There is mystery, miscommunication, and murder all against the backdrop of a desert music festival.



Fiction - Romance, Ages 14+

Deaver, Mason. *The Feeling of Falling in Love*. 2022. 352p. PUSH/Scholastic (Trade Publishing). \$18.99 (9781338777666).

If a TRULY unlikable character doesn't send you running, this perfect rom-com full of messy dynamics, intergenerational trauma, and fighting with the TSA will be a perfect fit. Deaver has done it again!



Fiction - Adventure, Ages 12-16

DeWitt, Amanda. *Aces Wild*. 2022. 352p. Peachtree Teen/Holiday House Publishing. \$17.99 (9781682634660).

Las Vegas gambling shenanigans with a group of ace teens who met on the internet.



Fiction - Romance, Ages 12+

Garrett, Camryn. *Friday I'm in Love*. 2023. 288p. Knopf Books for Young Readers/Penguin Random House. \$18.99 (9780593435106).

It's too late for Mahalia Harris to have a Sweet Sixteen, but it's not too late for her to have the over-the-top coming out party of her dreams!



Fiction - Romance, Ages 14-18

*Garza Villa, Jonny. *Ander & Santi Were Here: a Novel*. 2023. 368p. Wednesday Books/Macmillan. \$18.99 (9781250843999).

Ander Martinez has lived in the Santos Vista neighborhood of San Antonio, Texas for their entire life. Working at their family's taqueria is a part of who they are, and they want to continue working there while taking a gap year before leaving for art school. With their family nervous that a gap year will cause Ander to get complacent, they "fire" them and seek new staff in the form of a beautiful boy named Santiago. Ander and Santi fall quick and hard, but their

happiness is put into jeopardy when ICE agents come looking for Santi.



Fiction - Romance, Ages 13+

Green, Simon James. *Heartbreak Boys*. 2022. 384p. Clarion Books/HarperCollins. \$18.99 (9780358617259).

In this engaging contemporary novel, a group of teenagers navigates the challenging terrain of love and heartbreak. As secrets, misunderstandings, and unexpected connections intertwine, the characters grapple with their own emotions, learn valuable lessons about friendship and self-discovery, and ultimately find solace in the transformative power of love.



Fiction - Mystery, Ages 14-18

*Hammonds, Jas. *We Deserve Monuments*. 2022. 384p. Roaring Brook Press/Macmillan. \$18.99 (9781250816559).

Avery and her family move from Washington DC to a small town in Georgia to take care of her ailing Grandmother. Tensions in her family are high, and as Avery gets to know her new neighbors, she begins to learn about the buried truths of this town and how her family history is intertwined.



Fiction - Romance, Ages 14-18

Jaigirdar, Adiba. *The Dos and Donuts of Love*. 2023. 336p. Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan. \$19.99 (9781250842114).

For fans of The Great British Baking Show, *The Dos and Donuts of Love* follows Shireen as she competes in the first ever Junior Irish Baking Competition alongside her recent ex-girlfriend and a potential new romantic interest.



Fiction - Historical, Ages 13+

Jaigirdar, Adiba. *A Million to One*. 2022. 368p. HarperCollins. \$19.99 (9780062916327).

This is a story about the Titanic you've never heard before. When four girls make their way onto the Unsinkable ship, they have one goal in mind: steal a rare book and become rich. It's every woman for herself, but the trials they face will have them come together in unexpected ways. At times both sweet and heartbreaking, this is a story filled with hijinks, danger, and ultimately love in all

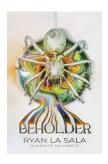
its forms.



Fiction - Historical, Ages 14+

Konigsberg, Bill. *Destination Unknown*. 2022. 304p. Scholastic Press/Scholastic (Trade Publishing). \$18.99 (9781338618051).

Two queer teenage boys find one another in New York City at the height of the AIDS epidemic.



Fiction - Horror, Ages 14+

La Sala, Ryan. *Beholder*. 2023. 352p. PUSH/Scholastic (Trade Publishing). \$18.99 (9781338745344).

Athan Bakirtzis unwittingly releases an unknown evil at a party when he rewinds his reflection in the mirror. Stepping out of the bathroom, he is unprepared to find the once lively crowd gruesomely arranged in a chilling tableau of death.

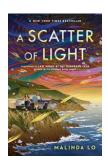


Fiction - Romance, Ages 12+

Lee, Sher. Fake Dates and Mooncakes. 2023. 272p. Underlined/Penguin Random House. \$10.99 (9780593569955).

Dylan Tang spends his time working in his family's Chinese restaurant and daydreaming about winning the Mid-Autumn Festival mooncake-making competition (and about boys). When the wealthy and charming Theo shows up offering to solve some of Dylan's problems in exchange for a fake-dating scheme at a family wedding, Dylan must figure out how to navigate his very

real feelings for Theo while keeping his eye on the prize.



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 14+

Lo, Malinda. *A Scatter of Light*. 2022. 336p. Dutton Books for Young Readers/Penguin Random House. \$18.99 (9780525555285).

Set in 2013, Aria Tang West's summer is not going as planned. Instead of spending the summer on Martha's Vineyard with her school friends before everyone splits ways for college in the fall, Aria is exiled to Northern California to spend time with her grandmother, artist Joan West, after a graduation party went awry. When Aria meets her grandmother's gardener, Steph Nicohls, she becomes close with Steph's queer friend group and starts to fall for Steph.



Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 14+

Lukens, F.T. *Spell Bound*. 2023. 336p. Margaret K. McElderry Books/Simon & Schuster. \$19.99 (9781665916226).

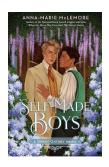
Edison, an aspiring magician without a connection to the ley lines, meets his match in Sun, a grumpy and annoyingly cute apprentice to Edison's new apprentice's rival. Sparks fly and tensions rise as the two must explore their feelings while figuring out how to save their mentors' magic and their own.



Fiction - Horror, Ages 14+

McCauley, Kyrie. *All the Dead Lie Down*. 2023. 368p. Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins. \$19.99 (9780063242982).

A lesbian gothic horror about a family with a genetic gift for necromancy and the nanny who comes to stay with them.



Fiction - Historical, Ages 13-18

*McLemore, Anna-Marie. Self-Made Boys: A Great Gatsby Remix. 2022. 320p. Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan. \$19.99 (9781250774934).

A queer, transgender, Latine retelling of *The Great Gatsby* that deals with passing as white, straight, or cisgender in wealthy American society.



Fiction - Romance, Ages 13+

Miller, Jenna. *Out of Character*. 2023. 384p. Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins. \$17.99 (9780063243323).

Fan-fiction lovers get ready to ship this role-playing, book-loving, body positive hero, Cass. Follow along while she struggles with family issues, relationships, and facing her past, all while indulging a bit too much in her previous gaming addiction. But how will Cass choose between reality and fantasy... what future will she write for herself?



Fiction - Romance, Ages 14-18

*Min, Lio. *Beating Heart Baby*. 2022. 352p. Flatiron Books/Macmillan. \$18.99 (9781250819093).

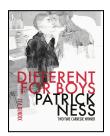
Artistic and sensitive Santi and prickly, proud musical prodigy Suwa's lives tangle and unravel as they create a present together, imagine a future with one another, and uncover a complicated past they didn't know they shared. A love letter to internet friendships, anime, and indie rock, *Beating Heart Baby* is a queer musical odyssey filled to the brim with compassion and hope.



Fiction - Historical, Multigenerational, Ages 13+

Nazemian, Abdi. *Only This Beautiful Moment*. 2023. 400p. Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins. \$19.99 (9780063039377).

A gorgeous, sweeping story about three generations of boys in the same Iranian family that spans decades, crosses countries, and examines queerness in the past and present.



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 14+

Ness, Patrick. *Different for Boys*. 2023. 104p. Walker Books US/Candlewick Press. \$18.99 (9781536228892).

With a unique format and distinctive illustrations, Ness explores masculinity, identity, friendship, and censorship in a story that is as concise as it is impactful. Ant must navigate relationships new and old as they grow and change around him, forcing him to choose between the comfort and safety of

his old friends or the opportunity to finally be truthful with himself and those around him.



Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 12+

*Novoa, Gabe Cole. *The Wicked Bargain*. 2023. 368p. Random House Books for Young Readers/Penguin Random House. \$18.99 (9780593378014).

Transmasculine nonbinary teen, Mar, is hiding their magical ability to manipulate fire and ice. When El Diablo boards their father's pirate ship ready to collect on a bargain he made 16 years ago, Mar is left as the only survivor of the ship's crew. Mar is left with an ultimatum: give up their soul to save their

father or never see him again.



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 14+

Oseman, Alice. *Nick and Charlie: A Heartstopper Novella*. 2023. 176p. Scholastic Press/Scholastic (Trade Publishing). \$16.99 (9781338885101). Nick has just graduated and is getting ready to attend Uni in the fall. Charlie is anxious about Nick leaving because what will that mean for their relationship? A graduation party leads to the biggest fight Nick and Charlie have ever had. Will they work through this miscommunication?



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 14+r

Oseman, Alice. *This Winter: A Heartstopper Novella*. 2023. 128p. Scholastic Press/Scholastic (Trade Publishing). \$17.99 (9781338885132).

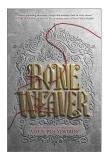
The Spring siblings are all together for Christmas, but what should be a happy time for them to spend quality time as a family becomes strained when Charlie butts heads with his mom and seeks refuge at his boyfriend's house. Tori and Oliver are left to pick up the pieces at the Spring house in this illustrated novella in three parts.



Fiction - Thriller, Ages 13-18

Oshiro, Mark. *Into the Light*. 2023. 448p. Tor Teen/Macmillan. \$19.99 (9781250812254).

In the year since Manny has been fending for himself after being run out by his adoptive parents, he has selected rules to live by to keep himself alive and relatively safe. But those rules fly out the window when he sees a news program talking about the body found at the secluded religious community, Reconciliation. While Manny fears going back to Reconciliation and the family that cast him out, he is more afraid that the body may be his sister, Elena.



Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 13+

Polydoros, Aden. *Bone Weaver*. 2022. 448p. Inkyard Press/HarperCollins. \$19.99 (9781335915825).

Toma lives a quiet life with her literal found family stitching up her undead parents and surviving off the land. All of this comes to a (once again) literal crashing halt as Toma finds the Tsar and his flying vehicle after it is shot from the sky. Follow the adventures of Toma, Tsar Mikhail, and a new friend (maybe more than a friend), Vanya, in a love triangle and monster-filled whirlwind through cities and forests.



Fiction - Historical, Ages 13-18

Roehrig, Caleb. *Teach the Torches to Burn: A Romeo & Juliet Remix*. **2023. 384p. Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan. \$20.99 (9781250828484).**Romeo & Juliet gets a modern queer twist when Romeo falls for Mercutio's younger brother, Valentine. This steamy historical reimagining comes complete with a wonderful cast of gueer characters.



Fiction - Romance, Ages 14+

Sass, Adam. *The 99 Boyfriends of Micah Summers*. 2022. 352p. Viking Books for Young Readers/Penguin Random House. \$18.99 (9780593464786).

The 99 Boyfriends of Micah Summers has everything: a meet-cute, viral social media attention, friends-to-lovers, and a Cinderella story twist! This book is a fun-filled romp from start to finish that will have readers cracking up at the characters' antics and rooting for the feel-good ending.



Fiction - Thriller, Ages 14+

Sass, Adam. *Your Lonely Nights Are Over*. 2023. 416p. Viking Books for Young Readers/Penguin Random House. \$19.99 (9780593526583).

This deliciously campy slasher horror of *Clueless* meets *Scream* is just what the heart needs! Two besties trying to navigate the annoying flops of queer club are thrust into an undesirable inconvenience in the form of a returning serial killer. Who has time for that?



Fiction - Realistic, Ages 14+

Sharpe, Tess. 6 *Times We Almost Kissed (and One Time We Did)*. 2023. 384p. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers/Hachette Book Group. \$18.99 (9780316302791).

Penny and Tate have never gotten along, which is unfortunate since their mothers are best friends, forcing the two into close contact their entire lives. When Tate's mom needs a liver transplant, Penny's mom does not hesitate to be a living donor. To get through this difficult ordeal, the two girls make a pact to be drama-free daughters for their mothers. But as Penny and Tate grow

closer, they find they may not hate each other after all.



Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 14-18

Shea, Jamison. *I Feed Her to the Beast and the Beast is Me.* 2023. 352p. Henry Holt and Co. Books for Young Readers/Macmillan. \$19.99 (9781250909565).

This book is breathtaking! Laure is a perfect ballerina in every way except the ones that count. She isn't rich, isn't blonde, and doesn't have parents who show up at every practice. She has fought hard for twelve years to break into professional ballet but is constantly overlooked for those with the qualities she simply does not and cannot have. When given the chance to make a blood-pact for a chance to make people pay attention...what chance did she have? CW:

body horror, death, and self-harm for sacrifice.



Fiction - Romance, Ages 13+

Silvera, Adam. *The First to Die at the End*. 2022. 560p. Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins. \$19.99 (9780063240803).

Would you want to know if you were going to die in the next 24 hours? As Death Cast goes live, Orion and Valentino's new romance together gets upended as they learn only one of them will survive the day.



Fiction - Horror, Ages 13+

*Tran, Trang Thanh. *She Is a Haunting*. 2023. 352p. Bloomsbury YA/Bloomsbury Publishing. \$18.99 (9781547610815).

Jane Nguyen visits the father who abandoned her family after he promises to pay for her to go to college. Little does she know that the house he is renovating is haunted AF and dangerous. With a touch of enemies-to-lovers mixed into pure house horror, this book is everything.



Fiction - Thriller, Ages 14+

Winans, Justine Pucella. *Bianca Torre Is Afraid of Everything*. 2023. 384p. Clarion Books/HarperCollins. \$19.99 (9780358721642).

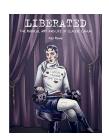
Bianca Torre is..wellIll afraid of everything. To the point of compiling an ever growing list of fears to keep things manageable. That doesn't stop the "bird watching" Bianca is doing in and out of the apartment from witnessing a murder and finding way more about the town than was ever expected! Have no fear, this is an incredible read.



Graphic Novel, Nonfiction - Memoir, Ages 14-18

Myer, Sarah. *Monstrous: A Transracial Adoption Story*. 2023. 272p. First Second/Macmillan. \$25.99 (9781250268792).

Born in South Korea and adopted at birth by a white American couple, Sarah has always felt like an outsider. Having always been drawn to art, Sarah throws herself into drawing to cope with the racist bullying she experiences at school and the overwhelming rage inside her that constantly threatens to spill out.



Graphic Novel, Nonfiction - Biography, Ages 13+

Rowe, Kaz. *Liberated: The Radical Art and Life of Claude Cahun*. 2023. 98p. Getty Publications/ABRAMS. \$19.95 (9781947440074).

Amidst WWII, artists Claude Cahun and Marcel Moore not only create art but also form an underground anti-Nazi resistance ring on the island of Jersey. This graphic biography delves into the experiences of being queer and Jewish in WWII France, revealing both the terrors and joys of their journey.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 14+

Baker, Dave and Goux, Nicole. *Forest Hills Bootleg Society*. 2022. 224p. Atheneum Books for Young Readers/Simon & Schuster. \$12.99 (9781534469488).

In this captivating graphic novel, readers are transported to the rebellious punk music scene of 1980s suburban America. Filled with vibrant illustrations and a compelling narrative, it follows a group of misfit teens as they navigate themes of friendship, identity, and the transformative power of music.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Romance, Ages 12+

Booth, Molly Horton, Strohm, Stephanie Kate, and Green, Jamie (illustrator). *Twelfth Grade Night*. 2022. 160p. Disney-Hyperion/Disney Publishing Group/Penguin Random House. \$24.99 (9781368062398). Vi and Sebastian have always done everything together -- until this year! Now Vi is attending a public high school without her twin brother. While helping plan the upcoming twelfth grade dance, Vi begins falling for the broody songwriter Orsino, who has a big crush on Olivia. But Olivia may be falling for Vi.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 16+

Bryon, Lucie. *Thieves*. 2022. 208p. Nobrow/Penguin Random House. \$20.99 (9781838741198).

High-schooler Ella can't remember a single thing from the party she went to last night, but she wakes up surrounded by a plethora of items that don't belong to her. Despite this, she still can't stop thinking about her huge crush on Madeline, who she's nervous to tell about her potential kleptomania. But Madeline may be hiding secrets of her own.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Romance, Ages 12+

Capriglione, Melissa. *Basil and Oregano*. 2023. 232p. Dark Horse Books/Penguin Random House. \$19.99 (9781506728704).

Porta Bella Magiculinary Academy is Basil's dream school, and she's worked hard to remain the top student to keep her scholarship. But when Arabella, the daughter of a renowned chef, shows up on the first day of her senior year, sparks fly and Basil gains some competition for top student in this delightful and magical graphic.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Romance, Ages 14-18

Costa, Mari. *Belle of the Ball.* 2023. 320p. First Second/Macmillan. \$24.99 (9781250784131).

Hawkins finally works up the courage to ask out her longtime crush, Regina, only to find out she is still dating all-star athlete Chloe. But when Chloe needs help with her English grade so she can get into the same school as Regina, they ask Hawkins for help. And that is when Chloe realizes why Hawkins is so familiar to her.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Paranormal, Ages 12+

Dugan, Jennifer and Seaton, Kit (illustrator). *Coven*. 2022. 288p. G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers/Penguin Random House. \$17.99 (9780593112182).

Emsy wants nothing more than to be a regular California teen, hanging out, surfing, and pretending she is normal. But when her family is attacked, she needs to accept that she is a witch and be with them as a family for everyone's protection. With enough time together, maybe it will feel like she is part of the family.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 12-18

Estrela, Joana and Miller-Lachmann, Lyn (translated by). *Pardalita*. 2023. 224p. Levine Querido. \$21.99 (9781646142552).

This philosophical graphic novel, translated from the original Portuguese, charts a love story between two young women in a small town. This love story is filled with music, art, and tender moments to remember.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Science Fiction, Ages 13+

Furedi, Chelsey. *Project Nought*. 2023. 336p. Clarion Books/HarperCollins. \$24.99 (9780358381686).

After unknowingly entering a time-travel project, Ren wakes up in a bed in 2122, a big change from the bus he was traveling on to confess his love for his penpal in 1996. Once he comes to, he is surrounded by the excitement of those around him who are studying the past through unsuspecting time travelers, morals be gone. Things quickly escalate as previous participants start exposing the secrets of the company running the program, and we realize that almost

nothing is as it seems. The bright artwork in this graphic novel perfectly brings this story to life!



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Horror, Ages 13+

Hill, Joe, Booher, David M., and Thorogood, Zoe (illustrator). *Joe Hill's Rain*. 2022. 156p. Image Comics. \$21.99 (9781534322691).

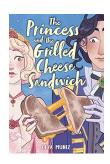
When the much needed rain turns into a deadly storm of metal needles, the difficult life of Joe Hill's world goes from bad to worse than imaginable. No one is safe. The only way to survive is to STAY INSIDE.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 13-17

Lorinczi, Balazs. *Doughnuts and Doom*. 2022. 136p. Top Shelf Productions/IDW Publishing. \$14.99 (9781603095136).

Stylish monochromatic blue art with occasional splashes of pink magic bring this slice-of-life graphic novel to life. Margot's potion making business is struggling, and Elena's music career has stalled out, but their chance encounter on a bad day leads to a fun fantasy adventure, featuring a magical snake and flying donuts.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Romance, Ages 12+

Muniz, Deya. *The Princess and the Grilled Cheese Sandwich*. 2023. 256p. Little, Brown Ink/Hachette Book Group. \$24.99 (9780316538701).

When Lady Camembert's father passes away, she disguises herself as a man and moves into the capital city of the Kingdom of Fromage with her handmaiden, Feta. Camembert is not so good at keeping a low profile and falls for Princess Brie, which threatens to compromise her identity and Princess Brie's ascension to the throne.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 12+

Riesbeck, Emily and Barna, NJ. *The Pirate and the Porcelain Girl.* 2023. 304p. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers/Simon & Schuster. \$14.99 (9781534487758).

This cozy fantasy romance between a feisty female Orc pirate and a young woman turned into porcelain by a god's whim builds slowly over the course of their adventures together. This graphic novel draws on Dungeons and Dragons and classic comic book tropes and creates a world that feels both familiar and

wholly fresh.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 12-17

Sheridan, Kat, Myers, Micah (lettering) and Cardinali, Gaia (illustrator). *In the Shadow of the Throne*. 2022. 168p. Maverick/Mad Cave Studios. \$14.99 (9781952303258).

While wandering around a museum overwhelmed by his family, Jordan is sucked into a painting where he must train and serve as a knight in an alternate world. Can he prove that he is worthy to the flirty prince?



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Fantasy, Ages 13-18

Sheron, Jessi. *The Sea in You*. 2023. 224p. Iron Circus Comics. \$15.00 (9781638991113).

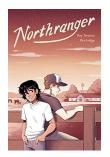
While Corinth is out cleaning up trash on the beach, she is pulled underwater by a blue mermaid, Skylla. This sparks a beautiful friendship between the two, and Skylla decides she wants to become human, too.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Horror, Ages 14+

Boo, Sweeney. Over My Dead Body. 2022. 240p. HarperAlley/HarperCollins. \$17.99 (9780063056305).

After the disappearance of her best friend who was like a sister to her, Abby seeks answers to the mysteries of the forest surrounding her magical school in this dark academia graphic novel full of cute familiars and deals with the devil.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Horror, Ages 13+

*Terciero, Rey and Indigo, Bre (illustrator) *Northranger*. 2023. 240p. HarperAlley/HarperCollins. \$26.99 (9780063007390).

In this graphic twist on Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*, Cade's obsession with horror movies gets him into trouble when looking into the mysteries at his new job on a ranch with his step-dad. But the ranch owner's son, Henry, cute and mysterious, is hiding something Cade can't yet pin down. Will the horrors in Cade's mind tear them apart or will Henry's real-life demons be too much for their new bond to contend with?



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Romance, Ages 12+

Walton, Jessica and Aska. Stars in Their Eyes. 2023. 224p. Graphix/Scholastic (Trade Publishing) . \$24.99 (9781338818802).

Maisie is going to her first con to meet her favorite tv actor! And then she meets Ollie, who is just as nerdy as Maisie. In a whirlwind of a single day at Fancon, Maisie learns what it means to really like someone.



Graphic Novel, Fiction - Fantasy, Ages ?

Watters, Shannon, Boyer-White, Branden, and Nelle, Berenice (illustrator) *Hollow*. 2022. 176p. BOOM! Box/BOOM! Studios. \$24.99 (9781684158515). In this graphic novel retelling of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, Izzy Crane moves to sleepy hollow and instantly realizes that not all ghost stories are made up.



Manga, Fiction - Slice-of-Life, Ages 13+

Harusono, Shou. Hirano and Kagiura, Vol. 1. 2022. 148p. Yen Press. \$13.00 (9781975352066).

____. Hirano and Kagiura, Vol. 2. 2023. 164p. Yen Press. \$13.00 (9781975360153).

When Kagiura moves into the dorms with his upperclassman roommate, Hirano, he falls for him immediately. But how will he confess his feelings without ruining the vibe in their room?



Manga, Fiction - Romance, Ages 13+ Harusono, Shou. Sasaki and Miyano, Vol. 7. 2023. 178p. Yen Press. \$13.00 (9781975341947).

Sasaki and Miyano are finally dating! While some of their friends have known of their feelings for one another for ages, Miyano and Sasaki start coming out to their families. Plus, Sasaki has just passed his final exams and graduation is right around the corner. Will Miyano and Sasaki's relationship survive not seeing each other at school everyday?



Manga, Fiction - Realistic Fiction, Ages 16+

*Isaki, Uta. *Is Love the Answer?* 2023. 256p. Kodansha Comics/Penguin Random House. \$14.99 (9781646516490).

Manga that explores a first-year college student's journey of self discovery to find her identity as an aro-ace individual in a culture that seems obsessive about love and sex.



Manga, Fiction - Realistic Fiction, Ages 16+

Jean, Cassandra and Mosskat. *Cuckoos Three*. 2023. 240p. Yen Press. \$20.00 (9781975367961).

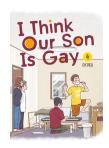
When Jacob, with all his piercings and a mysterious troubled past, moves out to the countryside, he catches the attention of Murray, a farmer's son who has never considered his sexuality. Their unlikely relationship strengthens in the face of homophobia as they learn to protect their feelings and each other.



Manga, Fiction - Romance, Ages 13+

Mika. *I Cannot Reach You, Vol. 5.* 2022. 196p. Yen Press. \$13.00 (9781975351564).

In this slooooooow burn slice-of-life manga, two boys get close, each waiting to see if the other will make a move. Full of enough sweet sweet angst to make you run to the shelf for the full series.



Manga, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 13+

Okura. *I Think Our Son Is Gay, Vol 4*. 2022. 128p. Square Enix Manga/Penguin Random House. \$14.99 (9781646091621).

Though the 4th in the series, this volume of this sweet slice-of-life manga gives insight into so many of the characters leading it to work as a stand-alone. A mother, who thinks her son may be gay, works to create a welcoming space for him.



Manga, Fiction - Realistic, Ages 16+

Yuzaki, Sakaomi. *She Loves to Cook, and She Loves to Eat, Vol. 1.* 2022. 178p. Yen Press. \$15.00 (9781975348823).

____. She Loves to Cook, and She Loves to Eat, Vol. 2. 2023. 178p. Yen Press. \$15.00 (9781975362973).

In this self-explanatory slice-of-life manga, two neighbors connect in the most symbiotic way. While Nomomo loves to cook (way too much), Kasuga loves to eat (without the time or desire to cook). The two form a quick friendship before

progressing into more.